LINCOLN SENSE

Society of Lincoln Cent Collectors • Dr. Sol Taylor, President • 13515 Magnolia Blvd. • Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

SLCC is dedicated to the collecting and study of the LINCOLN CENT. Our journal, LINCOLN SENSE, is published six times a year. Annual membership is $15 and foreign mailing is $20. Life membership is available at $150.

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Tips:

1. Unload your loose change regularly before it overwhelms you and you become one of the millions of coin hoarders in the US.
2. Give clerks the extra one to four pennies in each transaction that does not end in a 5 or zero. That way they won't give you pennies in change.
3. Give a coin album to a child age 8-11. They like to fill the holes.
4. Search hiding places once a year--closets, drawers, desks, tackle boxes, tool boxes, etc for loose coins and then spend them. Dig deep into the old living room couch and stuffed chairs--many coins can hide there.
5. Teach kids the value of money--start a savings account and be sure to include spare change, found coins, etc in the regular deposits.
6. If you can talk to a class of kids (preferably 4-5th graders) about coins, they'll lap it up. (I've been doing it for the past forty years. ed note)

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Save used commemorative stamps for SLCC youth projects.

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Mail Bid sale #103. Closing date July 29, 2000

Lot	Description
	Los Angeles Consignment
1	*1913 NGC/ANA PR65BN. Rare matte proof, high grade. Traces of color on highlights. Tiny obv spot lower rim. More RB on reverse.*
2	1932D MS64RD, light fingering traces
3	1933D MS65RD bright and sharp
4	1992S ICG PR70DCAM, none better.
5	1994S ICG PR70DCAM, none better.
6	Lincoln Cent die, U.S. Mint mounted on wood base with glass dome. Same as lot #19A in Mail Bid sale #102. Die number on the base. Nice desk exhibit item.
7	1909VDB ICG MS64RB 2-0-1, doubled die obv. (See p. 63 SGLC.)
	Idaho Consignment
8	1910 XF, 1917 XF/AU, 1918D VF (nice circ trio)
9	1916S, 1917S, 1918S, 1919S All VF20-25
10	1920S VF20 and 1923 VF25 (Nice duo)
11	1926D VF20, 1927S VF20, 1928D XF40 (Nice circ trio)
12	1928D VF20, 1929D VF20 (Nice circ duo)
13	1930 MS65RD, fully mint red
14	1930D MS63RD spot obv rim, tiny spot rev. full red.
15	1931S VF25, even wear, key date
16	1997S PR68DCAM
17	1998S PR68CAM
18	1999S PR69CAM
	Minnesota Consignment
19	1909VDB MS65RB, lightly toned
20	1930 MS64RD
21	1934 MS65RD, full mint red
22	1934D MS64RD
23	1935P,D,S Matched MS64-65RD trio
24	1936P,D,S Matched MS65RD
25	1937P,D,S MS65RD matched trio
26	1938P&D both MS65RD
27	1939P,D,S Matched MS64RD
28	1940P,D,S Matched MS65RD
29	1941D&S MS64RD, few reverse streaks
30	1942S Six MS64-65RD, 3 wityh minor reverse specks
31	1943D MS65 Six matched Uncs
32	1943P,D,S All matched MS65
33	1944P,D,S and 1945P,D,S all six MS65RD

Continued next page....

Lot Description

34 1946P,D,S and 1947P,D,S all 6 MS65RD, few tiny specks
35 1948P,D,S and 1949P,D,S all six MS65RD
36 1960 small date MS65RD
37 1999S PR69CAM
***38* 1942D RPM#4 MS64RD, trace obv fingerprint**

End of Mail Bid Sale #103. Mail your bids early. In case of a tie, the earliest bid wins. Invoices sent within 48 hours of closing. Payment due on on receipt of invoice. Promptness is always sincerely appreciated.

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Record Prices

The story made headlines when a 1943 bronze cent brought $115,000 ealrier this year. Story from Numismatic News 2-2-00.

Bronze '43 cent brings $115,000

A bid of $115,000 bought a 1943-S ronze cent offered in the auction of the)r. Jon Kardatzke collection conducted eb. 6-8 by Ira and Larry Goldberg oins and Collectibles in Los Angeles.

The NGC MS-61 Brown cent was old in the first of three auction essions.

Firm spokesman Ira Goldberg said he cent opened at $70,000 and three or our hands went into the air plus there as a telephone bidder.

The bid went to $75,000, then the hone bidder called $80,000. A dealer the room went to $85,000 and then nother to $90,000, Goldberg ecounted.

Martin Paul called out $92,500 and he phone bidder went to $95,000. Tony Terranova bid $100,000. Goldberg, who was the auctioneer, said he asked for a bid of $105,000. The coin was hammered down for $100,000 and with the 15 percent buyer's fee, the total sales price was $115,000.

A 1943-S bronze cent was auctioned for $115,000 Feb. 6.

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1917 doubled die update

SLCC member Steve Benson notes that there are two known MS65RD, 2 known MS66RD and one known MS67RD 1917 doubled die cents. The last coin though not for sale was valued at more than $75,000 by its current owner. This rare doubled die is certainly much rarer than the more famous 1955 doubled die and considerably rarer than the 1972 doubled die (1-0-I). It may well be in the rarity category of the 1969S doubled die and the 1970S doubled die—both known in very small numbers. In fact, iot would interesting to know exactly how many of the last tweo rarities are known and how many sold at public sale.

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1943 Cent Featured

This card handout printed by COIN WORLD was distributed at the last Long Beach Coin Expo (and probably at other venues as well).

THE 1943 STEEL CENT

When America entered World War II against Germany and Japan in December 1941, every American and every industry sacrificed, and the American way of life changed.

Even some of our coins changed.

The biggest change was to the Lincoln cent in 1943. The 1-cent denomination, commonly called the "penny," had been made of 95% copper and 5% zinc and tin since 1864. However, copper was needed for the war effort, particularly in making ammunition needed by U.S. soldiers, sailors and airmen. To help out, Congress authorized the U.S. Mint to change the metal in the cent so more copper could be used by the military.

After many tests (the Mint even tested an early form of "plastic" for the cent), the Mint decided on a zinc-coated steel cent. They began striking the steel cents in 1943. These steel cents were silver-gray in color. Unfortunately, the zinc wore off the steel cent very quickly, and many cents rusted or turned very dark in color. When 1944 began, the Mint returned to a mostly copper cent, with some of the copper coming from used ammunition.

The mint struck millions of 1943 steel cents, and they are still considered very common. The Mint also struck a few copper cents dated 1943. Today, these copper 1943 cents are worth thousands of dollars.

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SACRAMENTO VALLEY COIN CLUB

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June 2000 Auction results

SLCC member Gary Rosner compiled these results from the June Long beach auction by Heritage. The high bid includes the 15% buyer's fee.

Auction: 2000 June Long Beach Signature Sale

Lot #	Description	Image	High Bid
5936	Lincoln Cents 1914-D 1C MS 63 Brown.	Photo	$305.00
5937	Lincoln Cents 1921-S 1C MS 65 Red and Brown.	Photo	$603.75
5938	Proof Lincoln Cents 1909 1C VDB PR 62 Brown.	Photo	$[illegible]20.00
5930	Lincoln Cents 1909-S VDB 1C Fine 12 Stained.	Photo	$391.[illegible]
5931	Lincoln Cents 1909-S VDB 1C XF 40.	Photo	$5[illegible]
5932	Lincoln Cents 1909-S VDB 1C MS 60 Lightly Cleaned.	Photo	$667.00
5933	Lincoln Cents 1909-S 1C VF 20 Cleaned.	Photo	$57.50
5934	Lincoln Cents 1909-S 1C VF 30.	Photo	$86.25
5935	Lincoln Cents 1914-D 1C AU 50 Cleaned.	Photo	$414.00

Buyer's Fees at Auction

This concept started about ten to fifteen years ago to encourage better quality consignments by the major auction houses. About two or three years ago, Heritage started to charge buyers 15% of the bid price. At the same time, consignors were being charged about 5% (or less for million dollar consignments). Even the smaller mail bid sales and local auctions charge ten percent to buyers—and often ten percent to consignors as well.

As a collector interest group, SLCC does not charge a buyer's fee and relies mainly upon more modest consignemtns—though we have handled some high end coins as well.

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Stamp News

The major stamp show of the decade, Stamp Expo 2000 at Anaheim in July is the once-a-decade biggie in philatelics. Five new souvenir sheets honoring our space programs are coming out ranging in price from $3 to $11.7 Any of these used on your mail (escpecially to SLCC) is really appreciated. Used copies will be really hard to come by since most will be squireled away by collctors for decades to come.

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Auction results

From the May 21, 2000 Mike Aron Rare Coin Auction (Van Nuys, CA)

Lot	Description	Bid	SLCC comment
Prices are bid prices, and do not include 10% buyer's fee.			
95	1877 Indian G4	$200	Evenly worn features
101	1908S XF40	50	Might be VF30
102	1908S F15	38	Trace of LIBERTY
104	1909S Lincoln VF35	45	Few edge dings
105	1912S AU58	54	More like AU50, late die state
107	1914 MS65RD	70	Streaky
108	1914D VG8	58	Closer to AG, much wear
110	1918S MS65RB	400	Late die state, may not grade 65
114	1926S MS65RB	1100	Not likely a 65. More brown than RB. No floor bidders on this lot.
116	1928D MS65RD	170	Nice coin
120	1931D PCGS MS64RD	70	Not all that red
121	1931D MS63RB	32	
122	1931S MS65RD	125	Nice coin
123	1931S XF45	38	Maybe XF40
128	1943 NGC67	24	Shiny silvery
130	1963 PCGS PR67CAM	17	
131	1972/72 NGC MS64RB	210	Spot on reverse
132	1989S PCGS PR69DCAM	16	
133	1992S ICG PR70DCAM	28	
134	1994S ICG PR70DCAM	28	
135	1995/95 MS66RD	21	

These sales are held six times a year and by coincidence almost parallel SLCC mail bid sales--the last MARC sale was #101. The current SLCC sale is #103.

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WANTED

Information from other mail bid sales or auctions on Lincoln cents. Prices seem to be going higher. At the recent Long Beach show (June, 2000) very few Lincolns were seen or offered for sale--no rolls, no circulated wheats, and very few slabbed coins. The few specimens examined were priced well above Trends. One dealer had a 1909S NGC 65RD and it was priced at $45 A 1909 VDB PCGS MS65RD was listed at $90. Most of the slabbed coins were dated from the 1930s and up with lots of coins in the 1980s and 1990s (proofs) available.

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1931S Cent Featured.

A recent article in COIN WORLD on the popular 1931S cent which also quotes the SGLC on the subject.

Note the extensive quotation from THE SGLC. In addition, it may be noted that at the 1937 ANA show Abe Kosoff told this author that his friend Sol Kaplan had "hundreds of BU rolls" for sale at $17.50 a roll and he got them from a friend on the 'West Coast'.

By Paul Gilkes
COIN WORLD Staff

The 1931-S Lincoln cent has both prospered and suffered at the hands of speculators since its production nearly 70 years ago. Counterfeiters have also targeted the San Francisco Mint product as well by attempting to alter other S Mint cents from the 1930s.

Mintages for all Lincoln cents produced during the year 1931 – at the Denver, Philadelphia and Denver Mints – were drastically reduced from previous years, but none so much as the San Francisco cent. The San Francisco Mint struck just 866,000 coins, most of which were hoarded by speculators who hoped to capitalize on the low mintage by preventing the coins from entering circulating.

The 1931-S sports the second lowest mintage among circulation issue Lincoln cents (the 1909-S V.D.B. is scarcer, while the key-date 1914-D cent has a higher mintage but much higher prices than the 1931-S cent).

Although the *1932 Annual Report of the Director of the Mint* explains that all but 66,000 cents were struck at San Francisco during the early months of calendar year 1931, very few were issued during 1931 or years after, according to David W. Lange in *The Complete Guide to Lincoln Cents*. Demand for additional cents in the states served by the San Francisco Mint was almost nonexistent.

When the American Numismatic Association's journal, *The Numismatist*, reported the Lincoln cent's production at the beginning of 1932, the 1931-S cent became the object of affection among speculators.

"Bank tellers could usually be recruited in an effort to secure these desirable cents in exchange for some other favor which, during those years of prohibition against alcohol (1920-1933), might have included a bottle of the illicit nectar," according to Lange. Uncirculated 1931-S cents soon became plentiful in Mint-sewn bags and by the roll, but the coin was virtually impossible to find in circulation, while the more expensive 1909-S V.D.B. and 1914-D cents seemed to be readily plucked from the streams of commerce by knowledgeable collectors.

"Because the production figures were known to be quite low, many speculators and coin dealers stocked up large quantities in anticipation of a windfall," said Sol Taylor in *The Standard Guide to the Lincoln Cent*. "Very few even escaped into circulation. The price spread between circulated and Uncirculated specimens has always been narrow reflecting the fact that BU [Brilliant Uncirculated] coins are more common than Extra Fine copies."

When The Numismatist *reported the Lincoln cent's production at the beginning of 1932, the 1931-S cent became the object of affection among speculators.*

Coin World Trends values the 1931-S at $32 in Good 4, $42 in Very Fine 20, $45 in Extremely Fine 40, $55 in Mint State 60 brown, $125 in MS-64 red and $325 in MS-65 red. 1931-S cents are usually well struck, but not quite fully struck, according to Lange.

Counterfeiters have often faked 1931-S by altering some other genuine cent. According to Lange, "the simplest method was to reshape the final digit of some date such as 1936-S or 1937-S."

However, said Lange, the distinctive shape of the numeral 3 on genuine 1931-dated Lincoln cents should make these alterations easily detectable. Although not often seen, another trick was to add an S Mint mark taken from some common-date cent to a genuine 1931 cent struck at the Philadelphia Mint. CW

Mint Secret Coins

Both stories (next three pages) were featured in COIN WORLD back in July, 1996. Little since then has surfaced in terms of sales, public showings, or offerings.

July 1, 1996 ***"Enriching coin collecting through***

The Mint had a secret

It struck 66 "1975" aluminum cents; two may be missing 22 years later

By Paul Gilkes
COIN WORLD Staff

Two experimental 1975 Lincoln cents struck in aluminum may be missing.

1975 Lincoln cents, you say – in aluminum?

You read it right. The United States Mint struck 1975-dated Lincoln cents in aluminum as well as the famous 1974-dated metallurgical trial pieces, but never made the production of 1975 cents public. There is the possibility the 1975 missing specimens may still be in the hands of a former top Treasury Department executive. There is also some confusion as to how many of the 1974 aluminum cents are missing as well.

Documentation which attests to the existence of the 1975 aluminum cents also notes that production of 1974 cents did not end in 1973 as previously believed, but continued well into 1974.

The "Mother Lode" of data was obtained by Connecticut attorney David M. Krassner via a series of extensive, detailed Freedom of Information Act requests stemming from information sought relative to the federal civil case involving a 1933 Saint-Gaudens $20 gold double eagle, which the government claims is illegal to own. Krassner shared the data with *Coin World*.

Krassner represents Kansas City, Mo., dealer Jay Parrino, one of two coin dealers subjected to a government sting when a 1933 double eagle was seized Feb. 8 in New York by the Secret Service and who are challenging the government in the belief the coin was a legally released issue and, therefore, legal to own.

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1974 ALUMINUM cent's existence was revealed in 1973, as Treasury officials sought authority to change the composition of the coin. (Smithsonian Institution photo, National Numismatic Collection)

Experimental Cent Scorecard

1974 Lincoln, Aluminum cent

Number Struck: 1.5 million

Number Extant: 1 in Smithsonian; possibly 11 others

1974 Lincoln, Bronze-Clad Steel cent:

Number Struck: 200,000 or more

Number Extant: 2 in Mint files; 5-8 in private hands

1975 Lincoln, Aluminum cent:

Number Struck: 66

Number Extant: 2, possibly held by ex-Treasury Secretary

The answers to Krassner's FOIA requests concerning the 1974 aluminum cent with issues that may also be relative to the 1933 double eagle opened a floodgate of never-before-published numismatic information.

On April 15, 1996, Krassner sought the U.S. Mint's legal position on 20 different "mystery coins" – and whether or not the examples are legal to own.

In April and May, other FOIA requests were also tendered seeking responses as to what constitutes a "legally issued" or "legally released" Mint product and any information relative to the striking of the experimental 1974 aluminum cents.

Documentation details that the Philadelphia Mint struck not only more than 1.5 million 1974 aluminum cents, but 66 Lincoln cents dated 1975 in aluminum. U.S. Mint records indicate that 58 of the 1975-dated cents were struck in aluminum on May 28, 1974, and eight pieces were struck on May 30, 1974.

"U.S. Mint records indicate that 58 of the 1975-dated cents were struck in aluminum on May 28, 1974, and eight pieces were struck on May 30, 1974."

All of the 1975 aluminum cents, except the two which are still unaccounted for, were reported melted.

The two missing pieces are believed to have been specimens given to then Secretary of the Treasury George Schultz by Deputy Treasury Secretary William Simon for Schultz to examine, since he had final authority on approving the coins.

Aluminum was considered as a compositional alternative to copper cents when copper prices soared in the early 1970s. When copper prices eased, plans for the aluminum cents were scrapped.

A total of 1,579,261 of the 1974 aluminum cents were recorded struck between Jan. 7, 1974, and May 30, 1974, according to Mint ledgers. (Others were struck in October and December 1973.)

All of the 1974 aluminum specimens, except for nearly a dozen given out as samples to congressional representatives and other government officials but never returned, were reported melted between Jan. 23, 1974, and Jan. 27,.1975. It is believed at least 11 coins, to as many as 15 or 16, are in numismatic channels.

The first 1974 aluminum cents were struck on Oct. 17, 1973. The folowing day, Deputy Treasury Secretary Simon was given two of the aluminum cents in order to discuss the matter with Treasury Secretary Schultz, according to documentation.

From Oct. 17, 1973 to March 29, 1974, a total of 1,441,039 aluminum cents dated 1974 were struck, with destruction of all but 59 of the pieces completed on April 2, 1974. The presses ran for a continuous 40-hour marathon on March 23, 1974.

Between April 12 and May 30, 1974, an additional 130,128 were struck. From April 12 to June 4, 1974, 130,061 of the coins were destroyed, the balance of 67 coins retained by the Office of Technology, 65 in the Philadelphia Mint safe and two by Dr. Alan Goldman of the Office of Technology.

On June 19, 1974, an investigation of records showed that of 36 experimental pieces charged out to Deputy Mint Director F.H. MacDonald, all were accounted for; of 23 charged to Goldman, 20 were accounted for and three were missing; two to Seymour Rosenbaum were returned; and the Office of Technology, charged out with 65 coins, could only account for 60 coins, with five missing.

Correspondence states Goldman's explanation was that the three coins missing from his office were given by him and MacDonald to Simon for passage on to Secretary Schultz, but no explanation was given for the five pieces missing from the Office of Technology safe.

Of the 36 accounted for that had been charged out to MacDonald, 12 persons were in the possession of 22 1974 experimental cents, according to a June 20, 1974, memo to MacDonald from William Humbert of the Mint's Internal Audit Staff.

A lone 1974-dated aluminum specimen resides in the National Numismatic Collection at the Smithsonian Institution. The coin was donated to the Smithsonian by a member of one of the congressional staffs, an action that set off a legal debate between the Mint echelon and the Smithsonian's curatorial executives, which the Smithsonian won.

The U.S. Mint previously took the position that the 1974 aluminum cents were never legally issued, and hence, were still the property of the U.S. government. However, a recent inquiry by Krassner as to the U.S. Mint's current position makes its legal status unclear.

"There is currently a civil forfeiture proceeding pending in New York concerning the 1933 Saint-Gaudens coin," wrote Chief Mint Counsel Kenneth Gubin in May 16 correspondence to Krassner. "Some of the issues you raise presumably will be addressed in that forum. The Mint prefers that those issues, which can affect

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the legal case, be considered within that judicial process."

A U.S. Mint internal audit memo dated Aug. 18, 1976, reports that 14 of the 1974-dated aluminum cents were still outstanding – 11 struck on Dec. 5, 1973, two struck on Feb. 7, 1974, and one on April 18, 1974 – as well as two 1975 aluminum pieces struck May 28, 1974.

A Sept. 9, 1975, letter from William L. Humbert, Chief of the Mint's Internal Audit Staff to F.H. MacDonald, Deputy Mint Director, in a follow-up to earlier correspondence, suggested that three aluminum cents had been given to Deputy Treasury Secretary William Simon to give to Secretary of the Treasury George Schultz, which was later determined to be only two specimens.

"The Striking and Destruction records at the Philadelphia Mint showed that the Office of Technology safe should have contained 51 aluminum cents dated 1974 and 14 aluminum cents dated 1975," according to the letter from Humbert to MacDonald. "However, at the time the aluminum cents in the safe were destroyed, the safe contained 52 cents dated 1974 and only 12 coins dated 1975. In other words, there was one extra 1974 coin and a shortage of two coins dated 1975. There was no record of any 1975 aluminum cents being sent to Washington."

The belief was expressed in the spring of 1975 by at least one Mint official that some aluminum cents may have been hung-up in the Philadelphia Mint presses and would show up when the coin presses were disassembled or moved, but that wasn't expected for many years.

Specimens outside the Bureau of the Mint were charged out to various congressional committees and their representatives during the period in which aluminum was considered for the cents.

A July 11, 1990, letter from George E. Hunter, the U.S. Mint's Assistant Director for Process and Quality Control, states that 11 of the 1974 aluminum cents were still unaccounted for as of that date. A July 30, 1993, letter from U.S. Mint spokeswoman Brenda F. Gatling stated that the Department of the Treasury furnished 14 1974 aluminum experimental cents to congressional members and their staffs to evaluate the acceptability of the pieces.

Gatling notes that most of the experimental pieces were returned and melted, and that any outstanding pieces remain U.S. government property subject to seizure by the Secret Service.

The Justice Department declined to prosecute any individuals for failing to return any aluminum cents, citing the informal manner in which these "gifts" were distributed during the congressional examination. To proceed criminally, the United States Attorney's Office concluded, would be an abuse of the grand jury system. However, the U.S. Attorney's Office did leave open the possibility of a civil action.

Mint officials were cognizant that there would be security problems keeping track of every aluminum coin struck. J.A. Morgan, resident auditor at the Philadelphia Mint, in a Feb. 25, 1974, memo to Humbert, stated:

"Accounting for coins struck in the Pressroom, even under optimum conditions, is impossible. Counters on the coin presses are inaccurate and there are too many areas where coins can be lost, either in the machinery itself or in the surrounding areas."

Morgan continued, "After examining the areas where the aluminum strip would be blanked and the coins struck, and discussing the situation with Mr. Frank Breen, I concluded that production of a large number of aluminum pennies in the Pressroom would make it probable that some aluminum coins would leave the Mint either by accident or intent." GW

Thanks to Steve Benson for the articles on the 1975 off-metal cents. Anyone with information regarding the sale or offers on any of thes coins? We'd love to know.

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ANOTHER SECRET, revealed just two years ago: The Mint struck at least 200,000 1974 Lincoln cent metallurgical trial pieces on bronze-clad steel planchets, including the specimen shown to the right dangling from a magnet. The pieces were ordered destroyed, but at least five, and possibly a few others, were saved from the furnace in 1974 by a Pennsylvania steel mill worker witnessing the destruction of the coins by Mint guards.

Mint also kept secret striking of 1974 bronze-clad steel cents

At least five pieces are in private collection

By William T. Gibbs
COIN WORLD Staff

The 1975 Lincoln cents struck in aluminum aren't the only experimental coins dating from that period that Treasury and Mint officials kept secret from the coin collecting public – at least until one such secret piece surfaced in 1994.

A former steel mill worker contacted *Coin World* in June 1994 with the tale of how he witnessed Mint officials destroy a quarter million 1974 Lincoln cents struck on bronze-blad steel planchets, and managed to save five pieces that escaped the furnace into which the metallurgical trial pieces were being dumped for melting.

The source, who remains anonymous, sent a specimen to *Coin World* for examination. *Coin World* staff examining that piece were convinced that the specimen in question was a genuine Mint product, dating from the same period as the 1974 Lincoln cents struck in aluminum as metallurgical trial pieces.

Mint officials contacted by *Coin World* in 1994 confirmed two months after the story appeared in the July 4, 1994, issue what had been kept secret for 20 years: that the Mint not only struck aluminum planchets between standard 1974-dated Lincoln cent dies, but had also struck bronze-clad steel cents.

Please see **BRONZE-CLAD STEEL** Page 71

BRONZE-CLAD STEEL fron

According to a Mint spokesman on Aug. 15, 1994, the Mint retained two specimens of the bronze-clad steel cents in its specimen files. However, he said the Mint had no records of the coin's production or destruction.

The existence of the bronze-clad steel 1974 Lincoln cent was unknown in the numismatic community. A December 1973 report, *Alternative Materials for One-Cent Coinage*, states categorically that "nonsense dies" – dies that simulated cent dies in placement of designs and inscriptions – were used on everything but the aluminum cent. It is not known whether the 1974 bronze-clad steel cents were struck before or after the December 1973 report was published.

According to the source who provided the 1974 bronze-clad steel cent, at least 40 bags of the cents were taken to the Alan Wood Steel Co. in Pennsylvania in 1974 for destruction. The bags of cents were shoved down a chute leading to a furnace where the experimental pieces were to be destroyed by melting.

However, one bag split open and the cents were spilled across the floor. Mint guards ordered the steel mill employees away from the spilled experimental cents, and shoveled them into the chute.

As the spilled cents tumbled down the chute, a gust of wind blew 10-12 of the cents onto the floor of the furnace, which had not yet been turned on. The employee contacting *Coin World* picked up five of the cents, and kept them until 1994 when he contacted *Coin World* to try and determine their value.

Mint officials stated in 1994 that the bronze-clad steel cents would be considered illegal for private individuals to own.

Were other Lincoln cent experimental pieces struck in 1973 and 1974, and do any of them survive? Collectors will have to wait to find out. CW

Coin Prices

The two ads are from a June, 2000 issue of COIN WORLD. These are retail prices and may vary from dealer to dealer. As with SLCC policy, such ads are for information purposes only and thus the advertisers names are omitted.

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Upcoming events

The ANA summer convention this year is in Philadelphia at the new city convention center August 9-13. Dr. Sol Taylor will be speaking at the Numismatic Theatre on Friday, Aug. 11 at 2pm and the subject is "The Lincoln Cent as a Cherrypickers Best Choice". There will be photos of some lesser known doubled dies and RPMs which can still be found in stockbooks and collections. As the authors of the Cherrypickers Guide--J.T. Stanton and Bill Fivaz have both discovered over the years that there are many, many undiscovered coins out there waiting for a sharp eye to find them.

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2001 Show

The next summer convention of the ANA is scheduled for Atlanta, Georgia, August 8-12, 2001.

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— LINCOLN CENTS —

1968-S	$0.95	1984-S	$2.95
1969-S	0.95	1985-S	3.95
1970-S	0.95	1986-S	5.50
1971-S	0.95	1987-S	3.95
1972-S	0.95	1988-S	2.95
1973-S	0.95	1989-S	2.95
1974-S	0.95	1990-S	4.95
1975-S	3.95	1991-S	7.95
1976-S	2.95	1992-S	3.95
1977-S	2.95	1993-S	4.95
1978-S	2.50	1994-S	3.95
1979-S Ty1	2.95	1995-S	6.95
1979-S Ty2	2.95	1996-S	3.95
1980-S	1.50	1997-S	5.95
1981-S	2.25	1998-S	3.95
1982-S	2.95	1999-S	4.95
1983-S	4.95	All 33	89.50

LINCOLN CENTS

PCGS MS66RD

1934-1938

FIRST TIME OFFER

1934	$49.00	1937	35.00
1934D	115.00	1937D	44.00
1935	49.00	1937S	49.00
1935D	65.00	1938	35.00
1936	35.00	1938D	44.00
1936D	58.00	1938S	49.00
1936S	58.00	1939	44.00